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News Release

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Free enrichment program makes math fun

KOKOMO, Ind. — Math doesn't have to be scary —and it can even be fun.

That's the lesson two Indiana University Kokomo math faculty members hope to teach, in a free program for north central Indiana high school students.

William Lindsey, assistant professor of mathematics; and Megan Dailey, lecturer in mathematics, will offer Math Circles, an enrichment program for high school freshmen and sophomores, starting Saturday, September 6, and continuing the first Saturday of each month on campus.

"We want to show them that math can be fun," said Lindsey. "In high school, algebra is the focus, leading to more advanced classes, like calculus. Our goal is to show them that not all math leads to calculus, and to get to these students before they get discouraged with math. We want to show them ways they will use math in the real world, without involving algebra."

They plan to offer hands-on activities involving sequences and series, graph theory, probability and chance, and other aspects of math.

"We want to get more people interested in math, and reduce their fear of it," he said. "Maybe we will even encourage some future math majors."

Other universities have offered the program, part of the National Association of Math Circles. IU Kokomo's Math Circle will be the third in the state, along with circles in Indianapolis and Bloomington.

For more information, or to register, contact Lindsey at lindseyw@iuk.edu or Dailey at medailey@iuk.edu.

Indiana University Kokomo serves north central Indiana.

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